

PATENT  
Customer Number 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 08758.0001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Pere RELATS et al. ) Group Art Unit: 3765  
Serial No.: 10/085,066 ) Examiner: WORRELL JR., LARRY D  
Filed: March 1, 2002 ) Confirmation No.: 9139  
Allowed: May 19, 2004 )  
For: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR )  
PROVIDING A PROTECTING TUBE )

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**ATTN: MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE**

Sir:

**LETTER REQUESTING ACKNOWLEDGMENT  
OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97**

An Information Disclosure Statement was filed in this application on April 26, 2004. In reviewing our files, we find that we have not received from your Office an initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449 which would serve as acknowledgment of receipt of the Information Disclosure Statement and as an indication that the documents were considered by the examiner.

A copy of the Information Disclosure Statement, the Information Disclosure Citation on Form PTO-1449, and of the post card that was filed with the Information Disclosure Statement and was stamped by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to indicate receipt of the papers, is attached.


The examiner is respectfully requested either to send us a duplicate of the copy of the Form PTO-1449 or issue a Supplemental Notice of Allowability (PTOL-37) which both acknowledges receipt of the Information Disclosure Statement and the Information Disclosure Citation, and indicates that the documents were considered by the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: AUG 17 2004

By:

  
Ernest F. Chapman  
Reg. No. 25,961



AJS/DKS

**PLEASE STAMP TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE FOLLOWING:**

In Re Application of: Pere RELATS et al.

Application No.: 10/085,066

Group Art Unit: 3765

Filed: March 1, 2002

Examiner: Larry D. Worrell Jr.

For: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR PROVIDING A PROTECTING TUBE (as amended)

1. Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8 (1 pg)
2. Information Disclosure Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (q) (2 pgs)
3. Form PTO 1449 (1 pg)
4. Copies of non-U.S. references

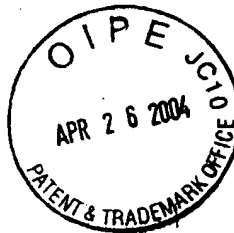
**RECEIVED**

APR 04 2004

Dated: April 23, 2004

Docket No.: 08758.0001-00000

D.K. Stier/S. Goodlette - Mail Drop ATL



FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,  
FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.  
(Due Date: NDD)

2/22  
9/5/04

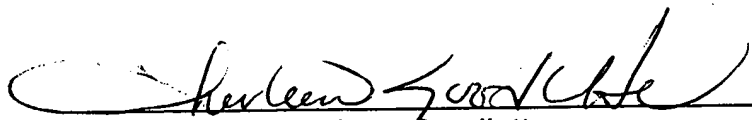


## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Services under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8 on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

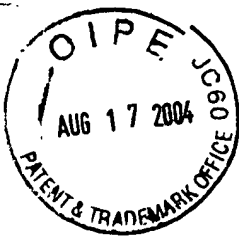
on April 23, 2004

Date

  
Sherleen Goodlette

### Attachments:

1. Information Disclosure Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) (2 pgs)
2. Form PTO 1449 (1 pg)
3. Copies of non-U.S. references
4. Post Card to Acknowledge Receipt



PATENT  
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For: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR )  
PROVIDING A PROTECTING )  
TUBE (as amended) )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicants brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in Section 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of either a Final action, Quayle action, or a Notice of Allowance. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement requires a fee of \$180.00, as specified by Section 1.17(p). Please charge this fee to our Deposit Account 06-0916.

Copies of the listed documents, including any copending patent applications, are attached. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

English translations of the non-English documents are enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

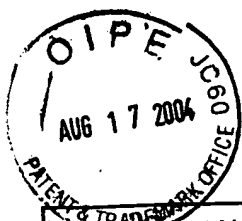
Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: April 23, 2004

By: 

D. Kent Stier  
Reg. No. 50,640  
(404) 653-6559



OMB No. 0651-0011

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	08758.0001	Appln. No.	10/085,066
Applicants	Pere RELATS et al.s		
Filing Date	March 1, 2002	Group:	3765

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
	3,429,147	02/25/1969	Perrier	66	195	10/25/1965

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
EP 0 077 665	5 June 1995	EPO	H02K3	32	Yes

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	Office Action dated 17 March 2003, European Patent Office
	Office Action dated 4 Sept. 2003, European Patent Office
	Novelty Search Report issued by the Hungarian Patent Office, dated 2 January 2003 (with translation)

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce